



Public Information Office
United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

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NEWS RELEASE

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President Renews Nomination of Goodwin Liu to Ninth Circuit

SAN FRANCISCO – President Obama has renewed the nomination of Professor Goodwin Liu, associate dean of the University of California at Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall), to serve as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. The White House announced the nomination January 5.

If confirmed by the Senate, Professor Liu would fill a new but never filled judgeship authorized to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals under Public Law 110-177, which became effective January 21, 2009.

President Obama previously nominated Professor Liu to the seat on February 24, 2010, and September 13, 2010, but neither nomination was acted upon by the Senate during its sessions. Under Senate rules, nominations not acted upon during the session are returned to the president and cannot be considered unless made again by the president.

Professor Liu has been a member of the Boalt Hall law faculty since 2003. Prior to that, he was an appellate litigator at the law firm of O'Melveny & Myers in Washington, D.C. He served as a special assistant to the deputy secretary, U.S. Department of Education, and as a senior program officer for higher education, Corporation for National Service, AmeriCorps.

Prof. Liu received his B.S. from Stanford University in 1991; his M.A. from Oxford University in 1993; and his J.D. from Yale Law School in 1998. He clerked for Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the Supreme Court of the United States and for Circuit Judge David Tatel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hears appeals of cases decided by executive branch agencies and federal trial courts in nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions. The court normally meets monthly in Seattle, Washington, San Francisco, California, and Pasadena, California; every other month in Portland, Oregon; three times per year in Honolulu, Hawaii; and twice a year in Anchorage, Alaska. The court is authorized 29 judgeships, three of which are currently vacant.

Judges of the federal appellate courts and federal district courts, appointed under Article III of the Constitution are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior. The current annual salary of a circuit judge is \$184,500 and \$174,000 for a district judge.

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